

AGO NEWS

A publication for Members • Volume 14, Number 7

Artreach Celebrations

Urban Inscriptions: Moving Through the Urban Experience

BY MICHÈLE THÉRIAULT

ARTREACH 25, THE 18-MONTH SILVER ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION of the partnership between the AGO, the provincial government and public art galleries across Ontario, is taking the exhibition *Urban Inscriptions* to three Ontario centres this summer. Specially curated for the occasion by Michèle Thériault, assistant curator of Canadian contemporary art, the exhibition began its provincial circuit in June at the Art Gallery St. Thomas-Elgin in St. Thomas, after which it will open on July 11 at the London Regional Art and Historical Museums, and will consequently conclude its tour in September at the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre in Guelph. Each of these galleries is a vital and busy art centre in its own right; not only do they produce a stimulating variety of exhibitions and educational and special programs for their surrounding communities, but they also have unique permanent collections, especially strong in Canadian art, that are well worth a visit. *Urban Inscriptions* celebrates the AGO's longstanding and rewarding association with these three regional galleries, and provides an ideal opportunity to visit these Ontario communities.

THIS TRAVELLING EXHIBITION BRINGS TOGETHER THE works of five contemporary Canadian artists and, as the title suggests, looks at how they inscribe the urban environment and are in turn inscribed by it. The works featured by Kim Adams, Claude-Philippe Benoit, Angela Grauerholz, Douglas Walker and Shirley Witasalo do not constitute deliberate social commentaries on the urban question; they are first and foremost artistic practices that encompass the urban experience and move through it. The focus of this exhibition is the nature of these visual constructions and systems in the light of particular urban inflections.

What does the term urban connote today? The prevailing notion is of a place governed by a dense tentacular relationship between technology, an advanced capitalist economy and men and women in society. But it nevertheless remains the space of memory and the place of its transformation, a place that still allows for circumspect reflection. These works situate themselves within the diversity of the spaces described above.

Three artists, Benoit, Grauerholz and Walker, present photographic work, whereas Witasalo is represented by a series of small gouaches on paper, and Adams by one of his scale model constructions.

The prevalence of the photographic medium in this exhibition recalls the ubiquity of the reproduced image in the contemporary urban environment. If nothing else, it leads us to reflect further upon the conventions of meaning governing photography and how these are established. All of the photographs presented here inscribe the urban phenomenon as a cultural and social formation that cannot be unified within the parameters of a description. Our gaze is directed away from a focused view, the common bond between these images being a sense of dislocation.

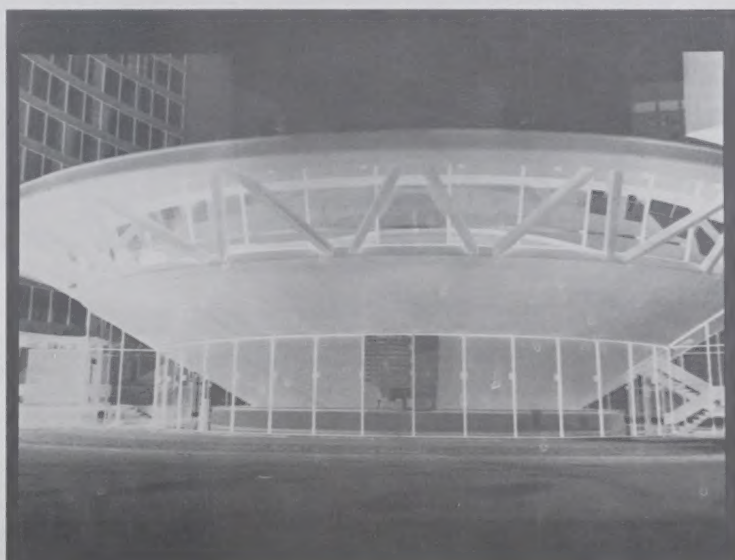
Angela Grauerholz has remarked that it is the space that emerges from a work rather than the object itself that interests her—that she wants to create a universal space.

Les Invalides (1989) is a site replete with historical references. Nevertheless it is emptied of those identifications. Mute and impenetrable, the photograph's isolated figures and darkened periphery work to divest this public space of a collective history. Only an individual experience can fill the void.

In Grauerholz's photographs, the urban creates a duplicate space for the deployment of a photographic practice. No structure or urban narrative emerges; rather, her practice reflects the increasingly difficult enterprise of establishing a structured set of connections in the city.

Claude-Philippe Benoit, in his series *Intérieur, jour* (1989-91), has chosen to focus on the juxtaposition of naturally evolved environments with ones that are man-made. In these works the urban inscribes itself within the age-old nature/culture dichotomy, one that is transposed in an exterior/interior division. The relationship to the urban is grounded in an undefined mythic time, as inseparable and vacillating as a person's attempt to situate him or herself in the universe.

In Douglas Walker's 1987 *Untitled* photographic suite, a condition of the urban landscape is the subject matter of the works: namely the disintegration of the historical continuum. In his images, which bear surfaces obstructed by scratches and superimpositions of all kinds, features of the techno-industrial environment—highway systems and industrial sites—emerge



Top: Angela Grauerholz, *Untitled*, 1989, cibachrome, 121.9 x 162.5 cm. Collection of the artist and Art 45.

Above: Claude-Philippe Benoit, *Sombre croisée (de la série Intérieur, jour)* 1989; silverprint, diptych, each photograph 80.0 x 100.0 cm. Collection of the Art Gallery of Ontario, gift from the Peggy Lowenbrough Fund, 1990.

as a space devoid of a specific sense of place in time. This space becomes the space of the photograph. Though these works represent time as having entirely collapsed, they seem to be rescued out of time as if re-emerging from some lost or forgotten archive. They form "objects" that parallel the collapse of urban structures as instruments of measure that give us a sense of where we are in time and place. What remains are fragments here and there, which have been assembled as tinkered photographs.

If the photographic works in this exhibition leave us with a sense of dislocation, one could say the opposite of Kim Adams's *Artist Colony* (1987-89). This work is a self-contained unit that suggests a balance between need and fulfillment, a miniature environment constructed from HO train scale models. Its predominant feature is the boxcar or passenger railcar stacked to form a housing complex and studio space. In most of Adams's constructions, vehicles merge with dwellings, hence the stationary and the mobile, the transient and the sedentary form an interdependent relationship. These fundamental conditions of the urban pervade this work. Concurrently all that is bracketed by these conditions—the syntax of the urban—becomes a potential component of a work.

By choosing to develop a miniature environment—a mimetic one—Kim Adams allows the urban to infiltrate his artistic process by means of the innumerable physical details and nuances that compose it. In its autonomous space, *Artist Colony* modifies and plays with the objects of the urban space and their various relationships. It forms a parallel independent urban construct that is exhaustively developed and meticulously engineered as well as enveloped in the profound,

surreptitious irony of the under/other side that slowly reveals itself in any system.

Shirley Witasalo's gouaches, rather than constructing parallel environments from bits and pieces, focus on a parcel or a strip of urban architecture: the suburban home and its inevitable court or crescent, the corporate tower or inner city period architecture. One senses that the artist deals with a geography that locates her in what is the intimately known and immediate.

In works such as *Corner Building* (1988) the social appears in the form of a painted architectural entity in a virtually unpopulated context, and the elliptical and intersecting structures representative of the inner self interact visually with the standardized structures of the outer world. We are not witnesses to a relation of opposites but rather to a visual representation of the process of an artist running her gaze across what is physically outside her and constructing her own representation of reality.

The urban field that the works in this exhibition have inscribed is filled with references that interact one upon the other and between each work. The vocabulary of representation that each artist has elaborated within each individual space does not achieve a definition of the urban—that would only serve to limit the deployment of the work—but rather communicates to us the experience of the urban (and possibly our sense of place within it) in the formation of a specific artistic practice.

Michèle Thériault is assistant curator of Contemporary Canadian Art.

Permanent Collection

E.R. & Frank P. Wood Galleries, Walter C. Laidlaw Gallery, Richard Barry Fudger Memorial Gallery & Rotunda, Reuben Wells Leonard Memorial Gallery & Rotunda
The European Painting and Sculpture Collection, housed in the Old Masters galleries surrounding the Walker Court, spans the 15th to the 19th centuries, and is especially noteworthy for its masterpieces of 17th-century northern and Italian Baroque art. These include one of the finest assemblages of Florentine Baroque bronzes in the world, the Margaret and Ian Ross Collection, Hals's *Portrait of Isaac Abrahamz. Massa* and Rembrandt's *Portrait of a Lady with a Lap Dog*, bequeathed by Frank P. Wood. *Still Life with Figures* by Frans Snyder and Joshua Reynolds's *Portrait of Horace Walpole* were gifts from the J.P. Bickell Estate in 1951.

Henry Moore Sculpture Centre

The Henry Moore Sculpture Centre houses the largest public collection of Henry Moore's work in the world. The great British sculptor donated a significant number of his original plaster, bronzes and graphics to the Gallery in 1970, and became personally involved in the design of the centre, which was built specifically to permanently display the collection.

Extension Services

1992: *Artreach 25*

Travelling Exhibitions

AGO-circulated shows. Dates are subject to change.

Urban Inscriptions

Artreach 25
London Regional and Historical Museums Jul 11-Aug 23

Free Worlds: Metaphors and Realities in Contemporary Hungarian Art
Oklahoma City Art Museum, Oklahoma City
Jul 16-Sep 13

Charles Macnamara and M.O. Hammond: Expressions in Landscape and Portrait
Contact
W.K.P. Kennedy Gallery, North Bay
Jul 16-Aug 15

The Pear and Its Pips: Auguste Bouquet and "La Caricature"
Artreach 25
The Art Gallery of Peterborough
to Jul 5

The Artists' Mecca: Canadian Art and Mexico
Artreach 25
Art Gallery of Windsor to Jul 26
W.K.P. Kennedy Gallery, North Bay
Aug 20-Sep 13

"A Real Amateur": The Elizabeth E. Dales Collection of Nineteenth-Century French Prints
Laurentian University Arts Centre, Sudbury
Aug 26-Oct 4



The refurbishment and installation of the Old Masters galleries are now complete.

"Artists with Their Work" Programs

Ben Walmesley: Painting
Oakville Galleries: Centennial Gallery and Garfield Gallery
to Jul 6

Phillip Barker and Reinhard Reitzenstein: Outdoor Installation
The Art Gallery of Peterborough
Peterborough Festival of Lights
to Jul 26

Rebecca Baird: Installation
The Lindsay Gallery
to Jul 18

Lee Paquette: Indoor and Outdoor Sculpture Installation
Hamilton Artists' Inc. and Royal Botanical Gardens
Jul 3-Aug 1
*Workshop Jul 3

Talks and Tours

Learn about artists, themes and issues in art. Topics available at Information. Free with admission. For group tours, call 979-6601.

Tue to Thu 12:15 & 2pm
Wed 6pm* & 7:30pm
Fri 11:15am* & 2pm
Sat & Sun 2pm* & 4pm

En français: le dimanche à 14h30, le mercredi à 18h45.
Rendezvous with Art: Wed 6pm
Half-hour tour plus informal discussion. Free.

Artful Conversation: ** Fri 11:15
Half-hour tour, coffee and conversation. Free for seniors.

Signed Talk: *** For the hard of hearing: last Saturday each month at 2pm. Please register minimum one week in advance. Call Cathy Newton, Canadian Hearing Society 964-9595, voice 964-2243 ttoo.



Gabor Bachman's installation *FREE WORLD*, 1991 in the exhibition *Free Worlds: Metaphors and Realities in Contemporary Hungarian Art*, organized by the AGO, opening in July in Oklahoma City.

Films

Noon-Hour Films

Fridays, 12:30pm in Jackson Hall.
Free with Gallery admission.
Entrance via AGO lobby.

Jul 3
The Impressionists (Museums without Walls series)
(1975, col., 42 min) A discussion of the origin and development of Impressionist painting, from Corot and the Barbizon painters to Monet's *Water-Lilies*.

Jul 10
A Fresh View: Impressionism and Post-Impressionism (Art of the Western World series)
(1989, col., 60 min) Art historians John House and Griselda Pollock join host Michael Wood in examining these two important movements.

Jul 17
Degas: The Unquiet Spirit
(1980, col., 65 min) An exploration of the life and work of this complex man and unorthodox artist.

Jul 24
Mary Cassatt: Impressionist from Philadelphia
(1977, col., 30 min) Cassatt's years in Paris, her relationship with the artist Edgar Degas, and the influence of her socially prominent Philadelphia family are some of the topics covered.

Vincent: A Dutchman
(1985, col., 26 min) Narrator Christopher Reeve follows the artist's extraordinary life through his paintings and letters to his beloved brother Theo.

Jul 31
Degas
(1988, col., 56 min) Toronto filmmaker Harry Rasby's sensitive way of collapsing the decades a century apart, imbues the art of Edgar Degas with a heightened sense of relevance for today.

Aug 7
The New York School
(1974, col., 55 min) A survey of Abstract Expressionism, written and narrated by Barbara Rose. Artists and critics who knew them recall the early days of the movement.

Aug 14
American Art in the Sixties
(1973, col., 58 min) The revolutionary trends of the 1960s - Pop Art, Minimal Art, Happenings, and Post-Painterly Abstraction - are explored in this survey written and narrated by Barbara Rose.

Aug 21
Forty-four Americans: Directions of the 1970s (Part 1)
(1980, col., 44 min) A two-part documentary on the work of artists Vito Acconci, Laurie Anderson, Alice Aycock, Scott Burton, Peter Campus, Chuck Close, Nancy Graves, Joseph Kosuth, Gordon Matta-Clark, Mary Miss, Elizabeth Murray, Dennis Oppenheim, Dorothea Rockburne and Joel Shapiro.

Aug 28
Forty-four Americans: Directions of the 1970s (Part 2)
(1980, col., 44 min) The second of a two-part program that discusses key American artists.

Gallery School

Due to the uncertainty of the present situation, please confirm the availability of all courses and programs with the Gallery.



Anne Tanenbaum Gallery School

Discover the joys of art or improve your skills at one of Toronto's oldest art schools. Limited class sizes; faculty and courses are subject to change. 979-6621.

Adult Studio Fall Term

Wed & Thu, 7-10pm
Ten-week courses are offered for both beginner and more advanced students in introductory, portrait and life drawing, pen and ink, painting, printmaking and water-colour. New courses include book-making, video production, intermediate watercolour and a drawing course offered in French. Registration in person or by mail (cheques should be postdated to first day of class). Fee: \$200; \$150 Members.

Advanced Studio

Sat, Sep 12-19-Jun 12 '93
9am-1pm
A precollege program, this course provides technical training and develops perceptual awareness, giving special attention to students preparing for postsecondary studies in visual art. Courses, taught by professional practising artists, include anatomy, drawing, painting, printmaking, film/video/performance and architectural and 2-D design. Admission to the program: individual applications, which may be made throughout the year, are evaluated by the faculty on an ongoing basis. Fee: \$300; \$250 Members. Program generously funded by the **Eaton Foundation**. Shell Canada Scholarship Program supported by Shell Canada Limited.

Children's Studio

Dates TBA
Registration Day, on a first-come-first-served basis, is Saturday, September 12, 12-1pm (14-18 years); 1-2pm (11-13 years); 2-3pm (8-10 years). This popular 30-week Children's Studio is designed as an after-school program (4-6pm). Tuesdays for ages 8-10, Wednesdays for ages 11-13, Thursdays for ages 14-18. Tuition (includes cost of materials and supplies): \$345; \$285 Members.

For Kids

Hands On

Suspense is building as Hands On goes under wraps! Over the next several months, Hands On will be undergoing a dramatic transformation in preparation for our grand opening in January of 1993. More hours! Bigger space! Please mark your calendar and join us then.

The Grange

The Grange, one of the AGO's treasures, is one of the most celebrated buildings in Toronto's architectural legacy, and provides a glimpse into the city's colonial days as the Town of York. Built in 1817 by D'Arcy Boulton Jr., one of the town's leading citizens, The Grange is a paragon of late Georgian sophisticated simplicity, declaring its owner's position in government and society. Today, it is one of the few remaining buildings that remind us of our city's architectural heritage. Experience a journey back to a more gracious time with a visit to this distinguished historic house. Free with Gallery admission. During the summer, entrance is via Grange Park. For tickets, information, adult tours, call 977-0414 ext237. A Volunteer Committee project.

Young Associates

Young Associates (YA) of the AGO brings art and young people together through dynamic educational and social programs. AGO membership a prerequisite; YA membership \$15, \$5 students. Information/tickets: 977-0414 ext433.

Weekend in Montreal

Sat Jul 11-Sun Jul 12
Celebrate Montreal's 350th birthday with a visit to the Montreal Jazz Festival! We will also tour the Michelangelo exhibition, which will be shown exclusively at the Montreal Museum of Fine Art.

Young at Art

Young at Art is an educational program held the third Wednesday of each month. Free for YA members; \$5 for guests.

Wed Jul 15, 7pm

Tour the Old Masters galleries and enjoy informative conversation and drinks in the Joely and Toby Tanenbaum Sculpture Atrium.

80's Postmodernism

Wed Aug 19, 6:30pm
Tour of postmodern architecture in Toronto.

Wed Sep 16, 6:30pm

Stay tuned for details.

Gallery Hopping

A Volunteer Committee project.

A Glorious Day in Oakville

Tue Sep 15
Tour the Oakville Historical Museum, the restored, turn-of-the-century home of one of Oakville's prominent families. Our visit will be enriched by a 40-minute walking tour of "Old Oakville," the charming residences of the original settlers, led by an entertaining Oakville historian. We'll have lunch at the Oakville Club, and for the afternoon we've planned several artful surprises.

A Day in the Country

Thu Oct 1
Come east with us on a tour of historic Port Hope and Cobourg. After morning refreshments in a private home, we'll visit the studio and home of famous Canadian artist David Blackwood. Lunch at a charming country inn will be followed by a visit to the Northumberland Art Gallery. A local historian will accompany us as we explore these lovely towns.

NE: Advance purchase tickets. No refunds. Programs subject to change. To order by mail from the Volunteer Office, see page 6; telephone 977-0414 ext263.

Travel AGO

Germany: A New Era

Sep 11-23
Art lovers worldwide look forward with anticipation to the international art exhibition *documenta*. Held every five years in Kassel, Germany, *documenta* takes on and accepts the diversity of the world. In addition to established art stars, artists from Cuba, Greece and Chile have also been invited. Selected for their convincing and, above all, independent work, participants are presented as outstanding artists, not as representatives of their nation. Past *documenta*s have included such artists as Picasso, Matisse, Beuys, Mondrian and Warhol. Canadian artists participating in this exhibition include video/installation artist Vera Frenkel, painter Rodney Graham, photographer Geoffrey James and sculptor Royden Rabnitchew. We are fortunate to incorporate *documenta IX* into our already exciting and busy itinerary, which includes visits to Dresden, Berlin and more.

Chicago Interlude

Oct 15-18
A Triple-A tour - art, antiques and architecture - ensures pleasure as well as learning. We'll stay close to Chicago's Magnificent Mile, rich with galleries, shops and restaurants. It time permits, the Shedd Aquarium, with its new addition, should complete a very exciting tour.

Down Under

Nov 5-27
Come hop along on a colourful 23-day tour of Australia and New Zealand, both countries of spectacular landscape and the home of Maori and Aboriginal cultures. We will visit Australia, the Great Barrier Reef and the North and South Islands of New Zealand. Fly with us on Air Canada and Quantas.

Arizona, Southwest Magic

Mar 29-Apr 6, 1993
Discover the rich artistic and cultural diversity of the region, where contemporary America mingles with Native, Hispanic and Old Western traditions. Our tour takes us through flowering desert land and towering mountain ranges to the Grand Canyon, with stops in Tucson, Phoenix and Sedona.

Also coming in 1993...

Study Tour in Bath, England in March-April • Exotic Turkey in May

July

1 Wednesday

12:15&2 Tour
6pm Rendezvous with Art
6:45pm Visite en français
7:30pm Tour

2 Thursday

12:15&2 Tour

3 Friday

11:15am Artful Conversation
12:30pm Noon-Hour Film
2pm Tour

4 Saturday

2&4pm Tour

5 Sunday

2&4pm Tour
2:30pm Visite en français

7 Tuesday

12:15&2 Tour

8 Wednesday

12:15&2 Tour
6pm Rendezvous with Art
6:45pm Visite en français
7:30pm Tour

9 Thursday

12:15&2 Tour

10 Friday

11:15am Artful Conversation
12:30pm Noon-Hour Film
2pm Tour

11 Saturday

2&4pm Tour

12 Sunday

2&4pm Tour
2:30pm Visite en français

14 Tuesday

12:15&2 Tour

15 Wednesday

12:15&2 Tour
6pm Rendezvous with Art
6:45pm Visite en français
7pm *in Tour*
7:30pm Tour

16 Thursday

12:15&2 Tour

17 Friday

11:15am Artful Conversation
12:30pm Noon-Hour Film
2pm Tour

18 Saturday

2&4pm Tour

19 Sunday

2&4pm Tour
2:30pm Visite en français

21 Tuesday

12:15&2 Tour

22 Wednesday

12:15&2 Tour
6pm Rendezvous with Art
6:45pm Visite en français
7:30pm Tour

23 Thursday

12:15&2 Tour

24 Friday

11:15am Artful Conversation
12:30pm Noon-Hour Film
2pm Tour

25 Saturday

2&4pm Tour

26 Sunday

2&4pm Tour
2:30pm Visite en français

28 Tuesday

12:15&2 Tour

29 Wednesday

12:15&2 Tour
6pm Rendezvous with Art
6:45pm Visite en français
7:30pm Tour

30 Thursday

12:15&2 Tour

31 Friday

11:15am Artful Conversation
12:30pm Noon-Hour Film
2pm Tour

August

1 Saturday

2&4pm Tour

2 Sunday

2&4pm Tour
2:30pm Visite en français

4 Tuesday

12:15&2 Tour

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12:30pm Noon-Hour Film
2pm Tour

29 Saturday

2pm Signed Tour
4pm Tour

30 Sunday

2&4pm Tour
2:30pm Visite en français

Art Gallery of Ontario Books etc.

BEGINNING JUNE 8, YOU ARE INVITED TO VISIT ART GALLERY OF Ontario Books etc., located on the first floor level of the Manulife Centre, at Bay and Bloor streets. Art Gallery of Ontario Books etc. staff are specialists in the visual arts, and they are looking forward to seeing their customers at this new location. They can help you find exhibition catalogues, and place special orders for any book or magazine in print, on any subject, anywhere in the world. AGO gift items such as T-shirts, sweatshirts, art leggings, coffee mugs, reproductions and posters will also be available at the new temporary location.

Art Gallery of Ontario members, as well as students with ID, will receive a 10% discount on most purchases and special orders, with the exception of magazines and sale items. The Book Shop at the Art Gallery of Ontario is closed during the Gallery's major construction and renovation project. It will re-open in the Gallery on January 24, 1993, in spacious new quarters with direct access from Dundas Street.

HOURS

Monday - Saturday, 10am-6pm
Tuesdays and Fridays: Till 7pm

Art Gallery of Ontario Books etc.

Manulife Centre
55 Bloor Street West
1st Floor (next to Bay Bloor Radio)
Toronto, Ontario

24 hour direct line answering (416) 979-6610

Shops and Services

Art Rental and Sales Gallery

Introduce your visitors this summer to one of the friendliest galleries in town. Browse through our ever-changing collection of contemporary works (paintings, photographs, prints and sculptures) created mostly by local talent. The knowledgeable staff take pleasure in assisting individuals, and business clients alike. Rentals for the home

or the office are available from one to six months for members of the Art Gallery of Ontario. Three months' rent comes off the price when you decide to purchase. Come visit and select at 35 McCaul Street, 2nd floor, (Tue to Sat 10:30am-4pm, Sun 1-4:30pm). A Volunteer Committee project. 979-6658.

Edward P. Taylor

Audio-Visual Centre

The A-V centre offers 35 mm slides, media kits, videotapes on art-

related subjects, and film classics on VHS, for educational use throughout Canada. Loans or in-house viewing by appointment.

Edward P. Taylor

Research Library & Archives

Located in handsome new quarters, Toronto's premier art research library and archives is a combined resource for research and information. Appointments are recommended.

AGO Restaurant

The elegant new restaurant and

bar-with-a-view offer a light yet innovative menu with a variety of specials. A feast for the senses at sensible prices.

AGO Café

Fresh salads, sandwiches and other treats.

Membership Centre

Visit the Membership Centre in the lobby for new, renewal and gift memberships. Or call at Ridley House across the street. All inquiries welcome.

More AGO Membership Benefits

THIS SUMMER, YOUR AGO MEMBERSHIP CARD WILL ENTITLE YOU to a complimentary membership to Theatre Plus Toronto and free admission during August to the Royal Botanical Gardens in Hamilton. It's our way of saying thanks for your support.

Between July and October, AGO members can become Theatre Plus Toronto (TPT) members for free and buy up to four tickets per show for TPT productions at the St. Lawrence Centre. Your discount tickets are either \$10.50 or \$15.50 each, a significant savings over the regular price of up to \$36 per seat. Just show your membership card at the St. Lawrence Centre box office, 27 Front St. E., or call the box office at 366-7723 and give your AGO membership number. You'll receive a Theatre Plus membership card by mail. If you pick up tickets before your TPT card arrives, just show your AGO card to receive your discount.

In addition to discounts for Theatre Plus shows, you can also obtain discounts at a variety of St. Lawrence neighbourhood restaurants, use the Theatre Plus Members' Lounge and attend free theatre talks and tours.

The Theatre Plus 1992 summer season includes:

- *Le Bal*, a theatrical spectacular that follows 50 years in the lives of regulars in a Parisian dance hall.
- *Crimes of the Heart*, a family comedy filled with love, eccentricities and Southern Gothic humour.
- *The Wife of Martin Guerre*, a musical based on the true story of a 16th-century French soldier who returns to his wife and family. But is he who he says he is - or an imposter?

And, if urban life and chaos get you down, use your



Patrick Galligan and Kate Trotter in a scene from last year's production of Tennessee Williams' *Summer and Smoke*, at Theatre Plus, Toronto.

AGO card for free admission to the internationally acclaimed Royal Botanical Gardens (RBG) in Hamilton anytime in August. The RBG is the world's third largest botanical gardens and is less than an hour's drive from Toronto. Just exit at Highway 403 from the QEW and follow the RBG signs.

The RBG's 2,700 acres feature rare specimen plants, floral displays and peaceful nature trails. Individual members can take one guest; family members receive free admission for two adults and up to four children.

More reciprocal benefits for AGO members will be announced in future issues of the AGO News.

Bring a Friend

Members are invited to bring a guest for free on each visit to the Gallery this year. (Please present your membership card.) Come and enjoy the refurbished Old Masters galleries.

Members' Lounge

Art magazines and changing exhibitions by Art Rental. Temporarily located beside the AGO Café. Special menu. Licensed. Open during Gallery hours for Members and their guests.

Commemorative Gifts

Commemorate birthdays, anniversaries or other occasions via donations to the Gallery. The person/family to be honoured receives a special acknowledgement card. Tax receipts are issued for \$5+ gifts. Please include the following with your donation and forward to the AGO's Volunteer Office: a) your name and address b) occasion to be honoured c) recipient's name and address d) cheque payable to Art Gallery of Ontario. A Volunteer Committee project.

AGO NEWS

JULY/AUGUST 1992

Art Gallery of Ontario Volunteers: A Story of Commitment and Service



Left to right: Pam Gibson, Diana Goad, Signy Eaton and Margaret Godsoe are recognized for 25 years of volunteer service to the AGO. Back: Bernice Smythe.

LIKE MANY OTHER CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS, THE AGO must operate within the constraints of a modest budget. Since 1945, the Volunteer Committee has played a major role at the Art Gallery of Ontario. Its role at the Gallery is so vital that volunteers are recognized as an organizational division of the Gallery.

The number of volunteers who serve at the AGO is one of the largest among North American art museums on a per capita basis. Some 1,000 volunteers devote more than 165,000 hours a year to the Gallery. Seventy-five of these volunteers have given 25 years or more of service to the Art Gallery of Ontario.

Collectively, even if only based on the current \$6 minimum wage in Ontario, the dollar value of the efforts of Gallery volunteers is worth well over \$2 million a year. In addition to their valuable contributions of time and expertise, volunteers also raise significant amounts of money for the Gallery through their involvement with the Gallery's retail operations and special events.

These funds are used for a variety of purposes. For example, volunteers have raised money to enable the AGO to purchase some of the finer works in the Gallery's permanent collection. With the assistance of the Volunteer Committee, 138 works of art have been purchased for the permanent collection since 1945, six of them in the past fiscal year.

In addition, the Volunteer Committee has made substantial gifts to Education Services, the Edward P. Taylor Research Library and Archives, and the restoration of The Grange, the oldest remaining brick house in Toronto and the Gallery's first home. Funds have also been allocated to the Exhibition Fund, as well as to the capital campaigns of the Stage I, Stage II and Stage III

expansion and renovation projects.

Volunteers are involved in many aspects of the Gallery's operations, including:

- Devising and presenting special programs for Gallery members, including Art in the Morning and Sunday Start with Art
- Helping with adult and school group tours as trained docents
- Organizing and conducting special local and international art tours to places like the Arctic, Russia, England and France.
- Operating The Grange historical house and museum, and raising money to pay for its operating expenses.
- Managing the Membership Centre and the Art Rental and Sales Gallery, as well as working in the Gallery shops.
- Helping the information, security and service staffs during special exhibitions.

At the 46th annual general meeting of the AGO Volunteer Committee, held on June 1, Director Glenn Lowry said: "The Gallery's Volunteer Committee is a vital part of what has shaped the AGO over nearly half a century, and makes it a great museum today."

Spring Cleaning



Craig McLaughlin (top), Sherry Phillips and Will Headley give Henry Moore's *Large Two Forms* a spring cleaning.

OAG Design Awards Won by AGO

ALAN ELDER, CURATOR OF THE ONTARIO CRAFT COUNCIL and a member of the Awards Committee of the Ontario Association of Art Galleries, was the chairman of the jury to award the 1992 OAG Design Awards. Graphic designer Debbie Adams, of Adams & Associates, and artist Micah Lexier completed the panel. Art Gallery of Ontario designers captured three designs this year. *Free Worlds: Metaphors and Realities* in Contemporary Hungarian Art won in two important categories: overall exhibition package and poster, both designed by Marilyn Bouma-Pyper. In the brochure category the top prize was awarded to Lisa Natolin for her brochure *35 Years of Hungarian Cinema*. Congratulations Lisa and Marilyn!

Artecycle '92 Rolls to a Success



Docent Sandra Mahr points out architectural features of Toronto's Old City Hall to Artecycle '92 participants.

THE FOURTH ANNUAL ARTCYCLE, SPONSORED BY THE Young Associates of the Art Gallery of Ontario, took place on June 14, with 220 people registered for the guided bicycle and walking tours. This year's theme was "Form Follows Function," an exploration of Toronto's public art and architecture. All proceeds will be donated to AGO educational programs.

After assembling at Grange Park, the participants formed small groups and visited sites of architectural, engineering, landscape and art interest in the downtown core, with Young Associates members acting as guides. Later in the afternoon, the groups reassembled at the Ontario College of Art for a barbecue and refreshments. In keeping with the theme of "Form Follows Function," participants formed a huge conga line that snaked its way around Grange Park, ending a perfect day.

The Young Associates would like to give special thanks to the docents, the volunteers and the sponsors whose hard work helped make Artecycle '92 such a success. For further information on the Young Associates, call the Volunteer Office at 977-0414, ext 433.

General Information

Admission (Construction Sale)

Adults \$1.50
Seniors 75¢ with cards/Fri free
Students 75¢ full-time with cards
Family (2 adults & children under 18): \$3
FREE: Members/children under 12, accompanied/Wed 5:30-9pm

AGO: (416) 977-0414
Membership: (416) 979-6620

Membership

Individual \$45 Family/Dual \$60
Young Member \$20 (age 25 & under)
Nonresident \$30 (100 km beyond Toronto)
Supporting \$100 (tax-deductible donation)

Available at the Membership Centre in the lobby and at Rodley House. Or by mail or phone. VISA, MC, Amex.
Other categories of contributing annual membership, including Curators' Circle, recognize donations at higher levels. Development Office 979-6619.

Notice to Members

From time to time our mailing list is re-

leased to arts/nonprofit organizations. To delete your address from the mailing list for third-party use, please contact Membership: 979-6620.

Moving?

Please send or phone in your new address to the Membership Office before you move, referring to your membership number and old address.

How to Order

For tickets, reservations, information, please consult individual listings. Otherwise: a) address department specified, b) specify date, name of event, number of tickets, c) indicate

your name, address (with postal code), phone numbers, d) include stamped, self-addressed envelope and cheque payable to the Art Gallery of Ontario.

Services for Persons with Disabilities
Wheelchairs available (limited number). Signed talks last Saturday each month.

Gallery Hours

Tue to Sun 11am-5:30pm, Wed to 9pm

The Grange Hours

Tue to Sun 12-4pm, Wed also 6-9pm.

Entrance via Grange Park.

Art Gallery of Ontario Books etc.

Manulife Centre, 55 Bloor St. West.

Mon to Sat 10am-6pm, Tue & Fri to 7pm.

Art Rental and Sales Gallery

At 35 McCaul St., 2nd floor. Open Tue to Sat 10:30am-4pm, Sun 1-4:30pm.

Edward P. Taylor Audio-Visual Centre
Tue to Fri 11am-5pm except holidays.

Edward P. Taylor Research Library & Archives

Tue to Fri 1:30-4:45pm, by appointment, 979-6642.

AGO Café

Mon to Fri 8:30am-5:30pm, Sat & Sun 10am-5:30pm, Wed to 9pm.

Members' Lounge

Open to Members and guests during Gallery hours. Service from noon.

AGO Restaurant

Tue to Sun 12-5 (lunch 12-2:30).
Wed dinner 5-8:30pm. 979-6612.

Parking

Special rates available at Village by the Grange (McCaul St.) for AGO visitors.
Mon-Fri \$1/hour (maximum \$6; \$3 after 5pm). Weekend day rate \$3.
Sat, \$2 Sun. Tickets validated at AGO information.

Printed on recycled paper



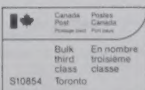
AGO
NEWS

VOLUME 14 NUMBER 7 JULY/AUGUST 1992

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AGO NEWS is published 11 times a year by the Art Gallery of Ontario 317 Dundas Street West Toronto M5T 1G4 Telephone: (416) 977-0414
Photo credits: All pictures by the AGO photographic services department unless otherwise designated.

ISSN 0829-4437



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The Art Gallery of Ontario is funded by the people of Ontario through the Ministry of Culture and Communications. Additional financial support is received from the Municipality of Metropolitan Toronto, Communications Canada, The Canada Council, and from its Members and many corporate, foundation and individual donors.